

LOT 58D-776 (NK Files) The Office  
of the Intelligence Organization in  
the Dept. of State (1946)

(71)

Late memo INT 593/  
from Russell X  
L. J. ...

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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Presumably 1946  
January 2, 1945

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The Secretary:

SUBJECT: Organization of State Department  
Intelligence Activities

In the event you approve my recommendation of December 29, 1945, on the future organization of the Department's intelligence activities, I suggest that you make a statement at a meeting of your Executive Staff Committee along the following lines or issue the following memorandum to all concerned:

"I have noted the comments and recommendations of Messrs. Russell, McCormack, Dunn and Braden on the proposed intelligence organization for the Department of State. My decision is to approve the recommendations made by Assistant Secretary of State Russell and, in so doing, I wish to take the opportunity to emphasize certain principles of primary importance.

"The Department of State needs a good intelligence organization and we now have the opportunity to achieve it. The proposed organization which I have approved has two vital parts:

- a) The intelligence staff sections in the geographical and functional offices, and
- b) The overall organization under the Special Assistant for Research and Intelligence.

I look to all of you for the necessary support and to Mr. McCormack for the necessary coordination to make this intelligence organization efficient and effective.

"The geographical and functional offices have the responsibility to use and develop intelligence staff sections which have been made available to them. They need these intelligence staff sections and have needed them for a long time. These intelligence staff sections must not be wasted or their work dissipated on other than intelligence work. I look to the various Assistant Secretaries to see that this does not happen and I shall expect

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Mr. McCormack to keep me informed on the progress which is made by the various intelligence staff sections in meeting the intelligence needs of the offices of which they are a part.

"Under Mr. McCormack's immediate supervision there is to be a central intelligence organization. It is a service organization. Its task will be to meet the over-all departmental intelligence needs and to carry out those intelligence projects which cannot be accomplished by the various intelligence staff sections in the geographical and functional offices. I expect the various Assistant Secretaries to keep Mr. McCormack informed on how well his immediate organization is meeting their needs.

"The various geographical and functional offices of the Department cannot be and should not consider themselves to be sufficient unto themselves. They do not need to have all the facilities which they use under their own immediate control. In my opinion, they have been given an intelligence staff section under their control which is sufficient to meet their needs. In addition, I expect them to use the facilities of the central intelligence organization.

"It is important for the central intelligence organization to recognize that it is a service organization. It is its business to get along with, and to meet the needs of, the rest of the Department which it serves. At the same time Mr. McCormack should be on the alert, through close liaison with the geographic and economic offices, to see to it that all parts of the intelligence organization of the Department are properly used and not dissipated, and that the standards and techniques of all the intelligence staff sections are satisfactorily maintained."

Donald Russell

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